



## Water Resources Division's Aquatic Invasive Species of the Week!

FOR THE WEEK OF:

June 2-8, 2013

European Frog-bit

*Hydrocharis morsus-ranae*

**Origin:** Native to Europe and parts of Asia and Africa

**Description:** Free-floating aquatic plant that forms large colonies, creating dense mats with tangled roots. Leaves are kidney shaped with long stems, dark purple below, resemble tiny water lilies 1-6 cm across. Flowers are white in color, three-petaled with yellow dots at the base.

**Habitat:** Occurs in shallow, slow moving water of lakes, rivers, streams, and wetlands

**Status of Distribution:** Verified occurrences in Bay, Macomb, Monroe, St. Clair, and Wayne Counties of Michigan. Also found in New York, Vermont, and Washington.

**Impacts:** Crowds out native plants and prevents sunlight from reaching submerged plants. When a large colony dies and decomposes it removes oxygen from the water which can affect fish and other aquatic life.



Photo by Jo Latimore, Michigan State University



Photo by Stephen J. Darbyshire



Photo by Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters



Photo by Wasyl Bakowsky, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources

For more information on European Frog-bit, please visit [www.misin.msu.edu](http://www.misin.msu.edu) or on current monitoring projects go to Michigan DNR's website: [www.michigan.gov/invasivespecies](http://www.michigan.gov/invasivespecies)